

MANY WOMEN VOTED IN ENGLISH ELECTION

NOVELTY OF POSSESSING FRANCHISE ATTRACTIVE.

Little Speculation on Results
Because Official Count Must
Wait Tonight.

London, Dec. 16.—Saturday's elections were featured by the astonishing number of women voting. The novelty of possessing the franchise seemed to appeal to them, in all parts of the country, the women flocking to the booths in crowds and outnumbering the male voters in some districts. Many secretaries accompanied by their husbands, but the majority went alone. In working class districts many mothers took their families. Generally speaking, the women took their new responsibilities very seriously and showed themselves to be fully acquainted with the procedure of voting.

A remarkable number of aged, even infirm, women voted in spite of the persistent rain over virtually the whole country. Men often remarked that their votes were nullified by their wives supporting opposing candidates. Reports go so far as to contain that the new house of commons has been mainly chosen by women.

Considering the novel conditions under which the elections were held, the necessity of waiting for a fortnight before the ballots are counted, there is very little indulgence in speculation as to the result. It is universally agreed that the coalition of the Conservative and Liberal parties has been victorious and probably will have some 400 members in the new house of commons.

Naturally, with many millions of new voters, women as well as men, there is ample room for surprises and the government party will feel doubts as to its success, even if it wins the cabinet, including Sir Eric Geddes, first lord of the admiralty; Sir Albert H. Stanley, president of the board of trade, and Edward Shortt, chief secretary of Ireland, have been elected. Greatest uncertainty centers on the strength of the labor vote, which under new conditions is an unknown quantity. While it is believed that the women of England, mainly supported coalition candidates, it would be no surprise if it is found that in the midland and northern industrial counties the woman vote largely supported labor.

It was because the labor party was determined to test its strength that it refused to compromise with liberal candidates in three-cornered constituencies, although such a compromise would have given the anti-unionists much greater strength in the new parliament. The labor party hopes to win over 100 seats. Political speculation is chiefly concerned with the reconstruction of the cabinet after the election. One rumor credits Premier Lloyd George with favoring the appointment of the first woman minister. The name of the minister is mentioned in this connection.

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Give Fruit Laxative when
croup, bilious, feverish
or constipated.

"California Syrup of Figs"
can't harm tender stom-
ach, liver, bowels.

Look back at your childhood days. Remember the "does" mother in-
fused on—castor oil, calomel, cathar-
tics. How you hated them, how you
fought against taking them.
With our children it's different.
Mothers who cling to the old form
of physic simply don't realize what
they do. The children's revolt is
well-founded. Their tender little
bodies are injured by them.
If your child's stomach, liver and
bowels need cleansing, give only deli-
cious "California Syrup of Figs." Its
action is positive, but gentle. Mil-
lions of mothers keep this harmless
"fruit laxative" handy; they know
the children love to take it; that it
never fails to clean the liver and
bowels and sweeten the stomach, and
that a teaspoonful given today saves
a sick child tomorrow.

Ask your druggist for a bottle of
"California Syrup of Figs" which has
full directions for babies, children of
all ages and for grown-ups plainly
on each bottle. Beware of counter-
feits sold here. See that it is made
by "California Fig Syrup Company."
Resists any other kind with com-
petence. (Adv.)

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Lumber and Cord Wood
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any quantity.

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GERMANS MUST PAY PRICE

But Berlin Writers Predict Reaction in
Their Favor.

Berlin, Dec. 16.—(A. P.)—Discussing President Wilson's trip to Europe, Count Ernst von Reventlow, chief editorial writer of the Tages Zeitung, says:
"The German people must pay any price, no matter how high, to bring the United States names as a candidate for the resumption of their position and relations with the world." The writer believes that Mr. Wilson's consent to the armistice conditions imposed on Germany is bound to "prove inimical to the influence of the United States in Europe and among its associates."

OFFICIAL DENIAL OF TRENCH RENT STORY

FRENCH HIGH COMMISSION
ISSUES STATEMENT.

Damage Done Private Property
Forces Always Indemnified.

Washington, Dec. 16.—There is no such thing as "trench rent." It is explained in a statement issued here today by the French high commission, denying that the French are exacting payment for ground occupied or for damage done to property in the "firing zone" of France by the American expeditionary forces during the war.

The commission describes as "both inaccurate and misleading" the report in circulation, which, on certain grounds, has ascribed to German propagandists that "whereas American troops not only had to pay rent for the French soil occupied in its battles with Huns but for the damage un-avoidably wrought by it on the western front."

"Damages done to private property in the rear of the operating forces (in France) have always been indemnified by the government to the owners of the property damaged," reads the statement of the French high commission. "This applies equally to the American, the British and the French in the regions where cantonnements and maneuvers are likely to harm fields, crops, barns, houses, etc., but, of course, this does not apply to the firing zone."

"The French government has made a point of extending to the American army the most friendly hospitality; it has been its policy to see that in no cases American troops be treated in a manner differing from the way French troops are dealt with. Likewise the French government has put free of charge at the disposal of the American troops, schools, hospitals, etc., belonging to it at the disposal of the allies."

"The same policy holds good at the front. French and American units relieve each other under identical conditions. War material has been used in common. Whenever a unit goes into a sector, an inventory of existing supplies is filed, the procedure adhered to in that regard being identical, whether the relief takes place between American and French troops, or between French troops alone."

"In a like manner, in billets in back areas, the rates of the regulations paid by American units are exactly the same as those paid by the French government to its own troops. Finally, in respect to damages caused to private property by American troops, the regulations of the bill of April 15, 1915, prevail, which provides that such claims as may arise are admitted only as they comply with the French laws on the question."

It is not possible to secure the happiness and prosperity of the world, to establish an enduring peace, unless the repetition of such wrongs is rendered impossible. This has, indeed, been a people's war. It has been waged against absolutism and militarism, and these enemies of liberty must from this time forth be shut out from the possibility of working their cruel will upon mankind. In my judgment it is not sufficient to establish this principle. It is necessary that it should be supported by a co-operation of the nations which shall be based upon fixed and definitive covenants and which shall be made certain of effective action through the instrumentality of a league of nations. I believe this to be the conviction of all thoughtful and liberal men.

"I am confident that this is the thought of those who lead your own great nation and I am looking forward with peculiar pleasure to co-operating with them in securing advances of living peace of justice and right dealing which shall justify the sacrifices of this war and cause men to look back upon those sacrifices as the dramatic and final process of their emancipation."

RETURNING TO BERLIN

Russian Ambassador Pays No Heed to Ebert Cabinet.

Berlin, Dec. 16.—Adolph Joffe, Russian ambassador to Germany, who was expelled from Berlin in November because of his activities in advancing the interests of the bolsheviks, is reported in a Breslau dispatch to have crossed the frontier after bribing members of the soldiers' and workmen's council. He is said to be returning to Berlin for the purpose of attending today's meeting of the soldiers' and workmen's congress, in spite of the request of the Ebert cabinet that he keep away from this city.

Adolph Joffe was one of the late prominent bolshevik leaders in Russia before his appointment as ambassador to Germany in April, 1918. After his arrival at the German capital he made himself obnoxious to the government there by preaching the revolutionary doctrines. He was arrested at Berlin on Nov. 6 and expelled from the city.

Documentary evidence of his activity was made public later at Berlin and Joffe admitted that he had planned with certain German leaders to bring about a bolshevik reign in Germany. The Ebert cabinet then canceled the invitation given to the Russian government to send a delegation to the congress of soldiers' and workmen's councils, Joffe being one of the delegates named by the Lenin regime in Russia.

POPE MAY ASK WILSON

Rome, Dec. 16.—(Havas.)—Pope Benedict may request President Wilson to consent to act as mediator in an effort to solve the dissent between the papal and the Vatican, according to Popolo Romano. This question, the paper says, will not be brought before the pope conference.

WON'T LEAVE HOLLAND.

Herr Hohenzollern Unaffected by Dutch

Amsterdam, Dec. 16.—(Havas.)—The former German emperor, the Telegraf says it understands, has refused to leave Holland after official representations had been made that his continued presence in Holland was likely to involve the country in serious dif-

"TAPS" TO VOLUNTEER SYSTEM IN U. S. ARMY

CROWDER FAVORS KEEP-
ING DRAFT LAW.

"Calamity" to Revert to Old
Plan—Army Sent to France
Proof of New.

New York, Dec. 16.—"Taps" to the volunteer system of raising armies in war-time in the United States was sounded here by Maj. Enoch H. Crowder, provost marshal-general, in an address to the retiring members of 189 New York draft boards. He earnestly advocated that the selective service system should become the permanent method of raising American armies in the future.

Gen. Crowder declared the selective service law had enabled the government to register 23,740,000 Americans, put in the field nearly 2,000,000 fighters and to have in readiness to entrain on Nov. 11, when the armistice was signed, 2,000,000 more soldiers, all within a period of eighteen months. It would be a "calamity," he said, for the United States to revert to the volunteer system, adding that the American conscription had shown the valor, aggressiveness and initiative of the most seasoned troops.

"What of the army you have raised?" asked Gen. Crowder referring to the drafted men who had been sent overseas.

"There comes back from France the answer," he said, "no uncertain terms. These men you have sent to the colors have proved themselves the equals in aggressive fighting and soldierly bearing of the veterans of France and England."

Gen. Crowder's speech was an exposition of the successful work of the selective service law, which, he said, had responded "smoothly and so well to our ideal form of state government and national control that it would be calamitous if it should not become a recognized part of our government system for the raising of armies in time of war."

NITRATE DISTRIBUTION

Congress Puzzled Over Sale of War

Supply of Nitrate of Soda.
Washington, Dec. 16.—(Special.)—Numerous inquiries are being received by members of the congressional delegation from Tennessee farmers over the critical situation relative to the distribution of nitrate of soda to the farmers of the state and the country generally.

Congress passed a law about two years ago authorizing the secretary of agriculture to purchase nitrate of soda and to sell it to farmers at cost. This plan was of great advantage to the farmers. Recently the agricultural department has been unable to secure nitrate of soda because of lack of ships with which to transport the commodity

to this country and also because the available supplies were required by the government for the manufacture of munitions.

The article is badly needed by the planter. The quantity of nitrate in this country which was originally intended for the manufacture of munitions is sufficiently large to take care of the situation if it is made available. It is likely an arrangement can be worked out by which the farmers will be supplied at cost. It is pointed out that the war department will undoubtedly have to face a loss on the large quantities of cotton and woolen goods completed.

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PROPOSE FINANCIAL UNION

Measure for Establishment of Interna-

tional Union Among Allies.
Paris, Sunday, Dec. 15.—The French government is considering, with a probability of presenting before the chamber of deputies on Dec. 24, a bill proposing the establishment among the allies of an international financial union to distribute war expenses between the nations on the basis of populations and power to contribute. It is understood a similar plan is under consideration by a British government.

It is estimated the expenses of the allies totaled 424,000,000 francs, while the central powers expended approximately 870,000,000 francs. Annual budgets at 5 per cent., with a one-half of 1 per cent. premium for amortization, would total 45,000,000 francs. To avoid international bankruptcy, it is declared such an association is necessary to float an international fund, estimated at \$18,000,000,000 francs, to be distributed on a basis of population and production. Each state would guarantee its proportion from customs and other revenues.

All exchange questions, freight rates and prices of raw materials would be handled through the centralized agency of the association. Provision is made for the admission of neutral states.

Even the central powers, upon terms prescribed by the allies, may join thus re-establishing international credit, which is held to be an essential condition of the economic development of the world.

RAILROAD FIGHT GROWS RAPIDLY IN INTENSITY

REPUBLICANS OBJECT TO
GOVERNMENT CONTROL.

Steensson Declares There
Never Was a Greater Menace
to Free Government.

Washington, Dec. 16.—(Special.)—Secretary McAdoo's recommendation to extend the time of government control of railroads to five years has started a real fight over the matter which is growing in intensity with each day. While both parties are divided on the question, a majority of the republicans seem opposed to government ownership, and it is claimed a majority of the democrats favor it.

This movement on the part of the administration to take over the wires and Judge Moon's bold declaration in defense of government ownership constituted a signal for the republicans to loudly proclaim their protest. It now seems certain that this will be one of the leading party issues.

A legislative step which has aroused the republicans was the introduction by Congressman Moon of an administration resolution providing for the government purchase and operation of the telegraph and telephone lines, and fuel was added to the flames Saturday when Congress- man Moon made a speech in the house urging the passage of his resolution. In retort to Congressman Moon's support of government ownership, Congressman Steensson, of Minnesota, said: "There never was a greater menace to a free government."

Judge Moon defended vigorously the government ownership and advocated with great force the passage of his resolution. He declared that until the government permanently controls these public utilities the postoffice department would remain "half developed." He said "the time is here when the United States must take over the systems for the benefit of the people. In taking over these systems, we simply resume the control and operation of them, which were only relinquished to private enterprise at the cost of the civil war."

Belgian Senate Favors Restoration of
Luxemburg.
Brussels, Dec. 15.—The Belgian government has submitted to parliament a bill limiting compensation for war damages to material losses, excluding those based on moral grounds. The senate in its address, replying to the speech from the throne, has declared strongly in favor of the restoration of the Duchy of Luxemburg to Belgium.

Famous Imperial Wardrobe Contains
Many Uniforms.
London, Dec. 15.—(British Wireless Service.)—An inventory of former Emperor William's private belongings in Berlin and Potsdam has led to the discovery of the famous imperial wardrobe, including 596 German and foreign military and naval uniforms, according to the Boerser Zeitung, of Berlin. Several thousand horses in stables formerly belonging to Herr Hohenzollern have been confiscated. Negotiations between Potsdam, the soldiers' and workmen's councils and Prince Eitel Friedrich, looking to the safeguarding of the Hohenzollern family fortunes, are progressing slowly. It is said an agreement will be framed next month.

MURDER OF GYPSY BRIDE

Milo H. Piper Will Be Grilled in Order
to Clear Up Mystery.

Muskegon, Mich., Dec. 16.—Standing on the shallow grave of his alleged bigamous "gypsy honeymoon" bride, Freda Weichman, whom he is charged with slaying at a lonely spot on the Grand Trunk railroad, twelve miles from here, in September, 1916, Milo H. Piper, Muskegon insurance broker, today will be subjected to his first grilling by C. A. Brook, prosecuting attor-

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| Waffle Irons | Curling Iron |
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FOR THE MEN — ELECTRIC APPLIANCES

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